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## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2006, at 2 p.m.

## Senate

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2006

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, who cares for us all, we praise You for Your wisdom and might. Thank You for Your word that guides us, for Your creation that sustains us and for Your redemption that saves us.

Place us on the paths that lead to abundant living. Today, strengthen and inspire our lawmakers. Empower them to dedicate their lives to Your service. Enlist them in the ranks of those who love You without ceasing and serve You without fail. Give them the wisdom to change the bad to good and the good to better.

Help us all to be grateful for the blessings and benefits You benevolently bestow upon us.

We pray in Your marvelous Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, August 3, 2006.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. SUNUNU thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, in a few minutes, we will return to the Department of Defense appropriations bill. We have several votes on amendments and the two managers were able to work out language on a number of other amendments that were agreed to by consent. I expect another full day on the Defense bill, with votes on amendments, as necessary. We will remain in session later into the evening to finish the appropriations bill tonight. That is the goal. The two managers have patiently waited for Senators to bring their amendments forward. I would counsel them to bring the bill to a

close if Senators are not prepared to come down and offer their amendments. Again, the managers are doing a superb job. We need to get Members to move ahead with their amendments and make sure they are appropriately offered.

Last night I filed a cloture motion on the motion to proceed to the Family Prosperity Act, which is the death tax, the minimum wage, and the extenders package. That vote will occur tomorrow morning, unless we can finish the Defense bill earlier and we can get an agreement to change the timing of that cloture vote.

Therefore, I encourage Members to remain available for the next 24 to 48 hours as we consider these two important measures, along with a very important pensions bill which we must act upon before we leave.

Let me turn to the Democratic leader briefly. Schedulingwise, we have a busy day, a lot today and tomorrow. I have a couple of things I want to discuss, including commenting on the bill for tomorrow morning and also trying to go to the child custody protection.

Anything else on the schedule to address?

Mr. REID. No.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 748

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, let me go to the Child Custody Protection Act. This is a bill that earlier this week I asked unanimous consent to go to conference on, a bill we passed last week with strong bipartisan support, 65 to 34. The assistant Democratic leader objected to this request on the grounds

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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